

DIAGNOSING AND TREATING CANCER CELLS USING Sal2

Abstract of the Disclosure

The invention features the use of *Sal2* nucleic acids and proteins in methods for treating patients having proliferative disorders, such as cancers, involving mutations in a *Sal2* nucleic acid sequence and in the protein that it encodes. In addition, these treatment methods may also be used for patients having a mutation in a nucleic acid sequence encoding a protein that interacts with Sal2 or that functions in a signaling pathway involving Sal2. Furthermore, Sal2 may be used as an anti-viral agent that interferes with the ability of a DNA tumor virus to replicate and disseminate in a cell.

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